AN

ANSWER

TO THE 3.

Letter to Two Great Men.

CONTAINING

Remarks and Obſervations on that Piece, and vindicating the Character of a Noble Lord from Inactivity.

Si pacem vultis ſolidam ſtabilire; cruento
Hoſti, bellandi ſit adempta potentia, quæſo.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

AN

ANSWER

TO THE

Letter to the Two Great Men.

SIR,

THOUGH I may not be perſonally acquainted with you, yet the ſame Privilege which enables you to write *A Letter to the Two Great Men*, may be ſuppoſed to indulge me with the Liberty of committing to the Preſs ſome Obſervations upon it; ſo that without any further Apology I may proceed to what I intend, in the mean Time proteſting, that a Love for my Country, Duty to my King, and a Regard to Candour and Integrity, are the ſole Motives that influence me to this Correſpondence: And as the Subject of your Performance is of no leſs a National Concern than that of eſtabliſhing Peace and Tranquillity at the Nego-

ciation ſo long expected, ſo I ſhall without confining myſelf to the Order in which you proſecute your Letter, proceed to make ſuch Obſervations as have occurred in the ſeveral Companies where the Converſation turned upon the Subject of a Congreſs betwixt the Powers at War.

I muſt be of the ſame Opinion with you in Regard to the Speech uttered at the Opening of this laſt Seſſion of Parliament by His Majeſty's Command, and can with Pleaſure take a Review of the other Speeches both pronounced by His Majeſty himſelf, and by thoſe whom he intruſted with His Royal Mandate. In all which there are the moſt ſtriking Tokens of Clemency, tempering Juſtice, and the plaineſt Teſtimony of a Moderation to ſoften the Rigour which His Majeſty might be intitled to inſiſt on by the Law of Arms. A Review of theſe Royal Declarations, cannot but inſpire with the higheſt Veneration and Regard, and while it endears His Majeſty to his People, ſo it cannot fail of drawing forth Shouts of Applauſe in favour of thoſe able Counſellours who adorn His Majeſty's Choice.

Tho' the different Speeches from time to time ever ſince the Commencement of the War, be ſufficient to ſet off the Moderation and Goodneſs of His Majeſty's Counſels, yet the magnanimous Declaration of Prince *Lewis* of *Brunſwick* merits a more than ordinary Applauſe, ſince it proceeded from a Goodneſs of Diſpoſition, and a generous Sympathy which are the nobleſt Indications both of the Hero and of the Chriſtian *.

After

* *Their* Britannic *and* Pruſſian *Majeſties, moved with Compaſſion at the Miſchiefs which the War that has been kindled for ſome Years; has already occaſioned and muſt neceſſarily*

After this Declaration ſo noble in itſelf, and ſo generous even beyond Expectation and Example, it would be unbecoming to deviate from what has been hitherto profeſſed both in the Speeches from the Throne, and in that emitted in the Face of all *Europe* at the Court of a Neutral Power. If the *French* be perfidious, let us religiouſly adhere to the ſtrict Letter of our own Declarations, and not diſcover any Inclination to retract what of our own proper Motion proceeded from a Nobleneſs of Soul that is touched with the Calamities of others; and far from inſiſting upon the particular Part where Negotiations are to be conducted, let us rather ſubmit that Point to a Neutral Power, ſince if Conditions tho' juſt and honourable in themſelves were agreed to, yet the other Powers would be apt to ſay, that theſe were extorted at a Time when the Plenipotentiary was ſurrounded with his Enemies, as being in the Kingdom of that Power who was at War with the Sovereign he repreſented: It is not, Sir, without good Cauſe and ſufficient Reaſons, that the different Authors who write upon the Rights of Peace and War, have always fixed upon Neutral Places for treating of Peace, in order to come to an Agreement: Even when Generals propoſed a Conference, the ſame was to be at a reaſonable Diſtance from their Armies: Thus when the two great Captains *Hannibal* and *Scipio* came to a Conference immediately before the Battle of *Negarada*, it was not till their Guards were re-

 removed

ceſſarily produce, have determined to make the following Declaration, — "*That they are willing to ſend Plenipotentiaries to the Place which ſhall be thought moſt proper, in order there to treat conjointly of a ſolid and general Peace with thoſe whom the belligerent Powers ſhall think fit to authorize on their Part for the attaining ſo ſalutary an End.*"

moved to an equal Diſtance *, and then the former begun by his Interpreter in Terms which the Faithfulneſs of Hiſtory has tranſmitted to us; and though the Conference was unſucceſsful, yet the Commanders retired with mutual Admiration of each others Sedateneſs and Temper. To treat in an Enemy's Tent, or Head-Quarters, is always conſtrued as unfair, and ſeldom ceaſes to furniſh Arguments to the other Power for pretending that under the Colour of a Treaty he was forced into Things, contradictory in themſelves, cruel and oppreſſive in their Nature, and which nothing but Force and lawleſs Power could have dictated. This was the very Argument made uſe of by *Auguſtus* I. King of *Poland* againſt the Treaty of *Altraſtadt*, ſigned and ſolemnly ſworn to between *Charles* XII. of *Sweden* on the one Part, and *Frederick*, King of *Poland* on the other; which laſt threw all the Blame of that Treaty upon his Plenipotentiary, though he himſelf had given the Ambaſſador a *Charte Blanche*, in order to eaſe his Electoral Subjects of the Burthen under which they groaned †. His *Poliſh* Majeſty inſiſted, that his Inſtructions to the Plenipotentiary were, to procure him *Chriſtian and Equitable Coditions*; and that as the being obliged to renounce his Country and Dignity was neither *Chriſtian* nor *Equitable*, and beſides all this, *inconſiſtent with his Coronation Oath*, ſo he thought himſelf free from theſe forced Engagements, and entered *Poland* at the Head of thoſe very Troops which had given the firſt Umbrage to his wavering and unfaithful Subjects.

From this Conduct of the King of *Poland*, your own Sagacity, Sir, will point out in a clearer manner

* *Livy*, Book 30.

† *See the King of* Poland's *Manifeſto* Auguſt 10, 1709.

ner than I can pretend, that no Place whatever ought to be rigorouſly inſiſted upon for entering into a Negotiation, and that other Princes, as well as the *French* Kings, can break Treaties upon the ſlighteſt Pretences, and violate the moſt ſacred Oaths when Ambition prompts to aſpire at Dignity; and when the Ingenuity is ſet at work to find out an Excuſe. From whence I would humbly be of Opinion, that neither *Paris* nor *London* ought to be the Place for a Negociation: Treaties of Alliance, offenſive and defenſive have frequently been ſigned in the Capital of one of the contracting Powers, as that at *Vienna* 1756, between the *French* King and the Houſe of *Auſtria*, but never at either of their Capitals when a Negociation for Peace was entered into after a long and deſtructive War.

The next Thing, Sir, in a Negotiation that deſerves Attenion is, well to conſider the Perſons to be ſent on ſo important a Meſſuage: they ought to be Men of Penetration, Skill and Dexterity, and in my Opinion, Men of Sobriety and impenetrable Secrecy: And could the Preſence of the great Men who have conducted the War, be diſpenſed with, I am fully convinced that they would diſcharge their Duty in that particular, with the ſame Fidelity and Candour as hitherto they have executed the different Steps of their high Employments: Yet this, Sir, is not ſo convenient, I had almoſt ſaid Practiable, for in a moral Senſe whatever is not convenient, and for the Good of the Community, ſhall always be reckoned impractiable by me: However impractiable it may be, yet the Remedy is not ſo hard to be attained as you ſeem to inſinuate: That *Authur*'s Chocolate-Houſe, that *Marybone*, and the *B*—— C—ffee-Houſe, inhance too much the Time of our Nobility and Gentry is true, but that a Perſon cannot pretend to act in a

publick

publick and intereſting Character, ſuch as that of a Negotiator, without being converſant in Places of publick Reſort is equally true. The Man who is acquainted with moſt Scenes of Life, is the moſt proper Perſon to move in a publick Sphere.

Nor do I think it ſo hard to find out Perſons among our Nobility and Gentry for entering upon the Taſk of a Negotiator. If it was not to offend the Modeſty of ſome great Perſonages, it was eaſy to point out ſeveral Members both in the Houſe of Lords and Commons, who have Skill to manage with Dexterity whatever may be entruſted with them. There are in both Houſes Men of as great Addreſs and Penetration, and of as much Skill and Dexterity as any that have appeared in *Britain*, ſince the firſt Inſtitution of Parliaments: And ſuch of them as have been Abroad, have brought their ſeveral Negotiations to an honourable Concluſion; ſo that it will be no Offence to their Modeſty if I name them.

The preſent Earl of *Granville* while Lord *Carteret*, negotiated a Peace between the *Swedes* and the contending Powers that were conſpired againſt them. He brought about a Reconcileation between them and the *Danes*, upon ſuch juſt and equitable Conditions, that neither the one nor the other have found it their Intereſt to violate the ſame, even when there appeared an Opportunity; he likewiſe mediated a Peace between the Father of this very King of *Pruſſia* and the Queen of *Sweden* *; and at laſt brought about a Treaty between the *Swedes* and the *Czar*: Actions which tho' not like to that of negotiating with the Plenipotentiaries of a Power immediately at War with his own Sovereign, yet ſuch as may give us reaſonable Hopes to believe his Capacity for ſuch an Employment.

* *Both theſe Treaties happened in* 1719.

Employment. The Earl of *Hyndford* negotiated a Peace between the Empreſs-Queen and the King of *Pruſſia*, and had a Motto given him by the *Pruſſian* Monarch, which is added to the Arms of his Family *(pro bene merito.)* The Father of the Earl of *Marchmont* was Ambaſſador at *Copenhagen* during a critical Juncture, and his Lordſhip of *Cheſterfield* was at the *Hague* in Time of the greateſt Intrigues carrying on by M. *Fenelon*, whoſe vaſt Talents were unable to promote the Schemes of his Court, which were always traverſed and diſconcerted by the Addreſs and Policy of the *Britiſh* Ambaſſador: In a word I humbly think that there are many Men in the Nation fit to be imployed in a Negotiation, beſide the great Men who have conducted the War, and whoſe Abſcence cannot be diſpenced with.

I ſhall not, Sir, follow you thro' the ſeveral Quotations given of the *Gallic* Faith, a Phraſe borrowed with a little Variation, from the old *Romans* when ſpeaking of the *Carthaginians*, which laſt ſeem to have been fully as ſtrict in their Morals and more generous to Strangers than the other: For while the former counted all People *barbarous* but themſelves, the latter embraced the whole Race of Mankind, and like the Subjects of their High Mightineſſes conſulted nothing but Navigation and Trade. What is the Hiſtory of every Nation but an exaggerated Enumeration of violated Treaties, and broken Negotiations? This will eaſily occur to any Perſon who reads the Manifeſtoes of any Power when juſt going to War. They charge each other with Perfidy, Craft, and premeditated Perjury. Every Nation has the Preſs at Command in their own Territories, and the Cauſe is bad indeed which cannot be defended in a Paper War. When two Parties are confronted, Truth will prevail againſt Falſhood, though ſupported by

all

all the Props of Impudence and Effrontery; but it is not ſo between two Parties who are never likely to ſee each other: In this Caſe the Paper will not bluſh, and both are at Liberty to ſay what they pleaſe. Nor do I think it a proper way of negociating, to inſiſt on Breach of former Treaties, and demand all at once the Demolition of Places as a Preliminary under Pretence that this ought to have been done according to the Letter of former Stipulations. Men ſent upon Negotiations ought to be equally ſmooth and peremptory; and States who diſcover a Magnanimity in the Midſt of amazing Succeſs to enter upon Terms of Reconciliation, ought never to grate their Opponents by ripping up former Sores.

The *French* can produce Inſtances of the good Faith of their Princes, and even at this Time they tell us that once at a Cabinet Council held in the Preſence of *Louis le Grand*; the Grandfather of the preſent *French* King *Louis* XV. being then Duke of *Burgundy* ſaid, *There is a Treaty* *, and that the whole agreed to his Sentiments: From this Conſideration I think it would be highly unbecoming in any Negotiator to inſiſt upon the Perfidy of another's Conſtituent at a Congreſs, ſuch Conduct as this was neither ſmooth, dexterous nor ſkillful.

You ſeem to inſinuate, that the Treaty itſelf ought to be written in the *Latin* Language and not in the *French* Tongue, which the Courtiers of *Verſailles* may vary as they pleaſe, and have been often known to ſuch make Innovations in their Language as in their Modes and Faſhions in order to drain the Purſes of their Neighbours.

* *See the Life of the Archbiſhop of* Cambray, *p.* 26, *and* M. Volt. *Hiſt. War* 1741.

At first View such a Proposal cannot but seem plausible, had not Experience shewn that the many Inconveniencies and Disputes between neighbouring Powers, arose from the various Constructions put upon Phrases, Sentences, and Paragraphs in that Language: To remedy these frequent Disorders, it was agreed to draw up Treaties in the living Tongues. You, Sir, must know that Treaties of Peace and Reconciliation were written all over *Europe* in the *Latin* Tongue for many Centuries: All the Treaties of Peace between *Gustavus Adolphus* and the *Muscovites* are in that Language; so is his Treaty with the *Danes* and *Poles*, as are all *Oliver Cromwell*'s Treaties of Reconciliation, nay all his Letters to foreign Potentates are wrote in *Latin*, and many of them fully as difficult to be understood as if written in *French* or *Italian*. Tho' I do not pretend to so great a Skill in that or any other Language as you Sir, yet I hope you will pardon me if I be humbly of Opinion, that the *Latin* Language is equally liable to be construed variously as the *French*, or any other living Tongue, when for a Miracle a Man is to be found who can keep up a Quarter of an Hour's Conversation in it.

I am far from averring that you, Sir, are amongst the Number of those who cannot talk with Propriety in it, you may or you may not for me; one thing is certain, that scarcely one Man of a thousand in any Profession I know, is adequate to it: The Clergy are generally deficient, and the *Latin* of Divines is far from being pure; that of the Lawyers is better, but where one Lawyer has a tolerable Smattering, almost the whole Body of those who wear the Gown are ignorant; the only People acquainted with that dead Language are the Physicians, and yet these are far from being capable to speak or understand it with

Propriety. And it would be hard if on every Conteſt between us and *France* the real Treaty ſubſiſting between us was only known to a few: For I ſet aſide all Tranſlations of a dead Language, as theſe are ſubject to various Interpretations. On which Account I own I am for concluding the Treaty both in *French* and in *Engliſh*, there being many *Engliſhmen* who underſtand the former, and many *French* who know and ſpeak the other with Propriety.

I would not ſo willingly enter into any Diſpute about what you ſuggeſt, as about the Juſtice of ſending over thoſe very Forces which had ſo lately agreed, neither directly nor indirectly, to bear Arms againſt *France*.

Whoever takes the Trouble to peruſe the Memorials delivered by the Abbe *de la Ville*, and the Anſwers to them on that Controverſy, particularly thoſe on the Eighteenth and Twenty-firſt of *September*, and on the Sixth and Thirteenth of *October*, 1745, will ſee that a Mynheer can act the Sophiſter as well as Monſieur himſelf. The Subject of Debate was this: By the Capitulation of *Tournay* "the *Dutch* Garriſon "of that Place was not to ſerve againſt the *French* "for a Year." The Treaty was ſigned under the Eye of the *French* King, who thought it derogatory to his Moderation and Generoſity to inſiſt upon the niceſt Explanation; he contented himſelf with general Terms, which by the Law of Nations * he had a better Right to conſtruct favourably for him than the *Dutch* had to explain againſt him. The Garriſon marched out of *Tournay*, and paſſed thro' the *French* Army, which was drawn up on each Side, with the King and Marſhal *Saxe* at their Head. His Majeſty

* *Favorabilia latius, odioſa ſtrictius interpretanda.* Puff. de Off. Hom. cap. xvii. lib. ix.

jeſty on that Day diſcovered an unaffected Air of Humanity, and aſked the Names of the different Regiments as they paſſed along.

In about two Months after this, a Rebellion broke out in *Scotland*, and Mr. *Trevor*, the *Britiſh* Miniſter at the *Hague*, required of the States General the 6000 Men ſtipulated by Treaties; the Requiſition was complied with, but eight of the Battalions ſent over were part of the Garriſon of *Tournay*, which, if we allow the *French* to conſtruct favourably for themſelves, was neither to act directly nor indirectly againſt them for a Year. The States of *Holland* certainly knew that the Chevalier would not have undertaken ſuch an Expedition without Encouragement from *France*, then at open War with the King of *England*; they likewiſe knew that the Aſſiſtance of ſix thouſand Men from them, might be looked on as a Means for continuing the national *Britiſh* Troops in *Flanders*, which the *French* wanted to be ſent Home; and it is no great Wonder if a Court leſs perfidious, according to you, than the *French*, ſhould complain of a Violation in a Treaty ſo lately concluded; nor do I think that the Evaſions uſed by the Mynheers in their Anſwers to the *French* Memorials, would have been fewer had the Treaty been drawn up in the *Latin* Tongue, ſince *Dutch* Connoiſieurs are well acquainted with Etymology, and that no Words of a dead Language can be reduced to a popular Acceptation ſo well as thoſe of a Living *. But be that as it will; the *Dutch* acted like the Monkey in the Fable, when judging about dividing a Cheeſe between two Cats; he firſt divided it into two unequal Parts, and took off from the largeſt as much as to

 render

* *Verba popularia accipienda populari uſu.* Puff. *c.* 17. §. 2.

render it lighter than the other, and ſo on till little or nothing was left in either Scale, and ſtill he complained that Juſtice was not ſatisfied: The *Hogun Mogun* pleaſed *Britain* by ſending the Troops according to Treaty, but they pacified *France* by their Inaction; for during the Winter they prevented by their Slowneſs the Execution of all the Schemes for putting an End to the Inſurrection; for had they marched at the Time when General *Wade* required them, the Chevalier and his little Army might have been defeated at *Carliſle* before advancing farther into *England*. But not to dwell on this; I think the Treaty may be drawn up in any Language, provided no Reſtitution be made of any of the Conqueſts, which are but a Kind of Indemnification for the Expences of the War, and Maintenance of upwards of 12000 Priſoners, whom the Exigencies of *France* more than the Inhumanity of their Sovereign left to the Charity and good Diſpoſition of their Enemies.

I agree with you in retaining *Canada*, with the Iſles of *Cape Breton* and *St. John*; and think they ſhould be annexed to the Crown of *Great-Britain* by Act of Parliament; but I cannot aſſent to the Scheme of deſtroying *Louiſburgh*, and deſolating the Iſland whereon it is built. 'Tis reckoned a Crime next to Sacrilege to ſhut up a Spring, or to deſtroy any publick Benefit which Nature has pointed out; nor is it a leſs folly to eraſe Houſes and ſap Towns; this was the Phrenzy of the *Goths* when they ravaged *Italy*; and alas! of the Populace at the Reformation when the nobleſt Edifices, ſome of which had been the Work of Ages, and the ſtately Ornaments of their Country, were pulled down.

In your Account of the Progreſs of the War in *North America*, a Phraſe has dropt from your Pen in

Page

Page 28, that reflects on a noble Lord whom you charge with INACTIVITY! But, Sir, I muſt be pardoned if I aver that the Earl of *Loudon*'s Conduct was too ſpirited to deſerve the leaſt Inſinuation againſt it. He is both a Soldier and a Stateſman; nor do I think a fitter Perſon could be appointed at the expected Congreſs, he being well acquainted with the *French* and *Latin* Languages, and poſſeſſed of all the Requiſites of an Ambaſſadour *.

He is endowed with a cool Head and a warm Heart, which he ever ſhewed on all Occaſions; his Exploits, during the Time of the Rebellion, will entitle him to the Love of every *Briton*, and to the Confidence of his Royal Maſter. By a preſence of Mind ſufficient to enoble any Hero, did he ſave two Regiments of Dragoons at the Battle of *Preſtonpans*. By an Advice which argued Penetration and Sagacity, did he obtain a Commiſſion from the Government for repairing to the North Highlands in *Scotland*, and enliſting Men for the Service of his Majeſty King *George*, which was ſo great a Drawback, that almoſt 6000 Men were kept from joining the Standard of the Adventurer; and by a *Coup d'eclat* which was only defeated by the Treatchery of a Guide, he had very nigh ſurpriſed the Chevalier in the Place were he was lodged; and not only ſo but when forced to retire, he kept up a Body of Men, almoſt by his own Prudence and good Behaviour, which obliged the Rebel Army to divide their Forces, and render the Victory at *Culloden* both more eaſy and compleat.

There

* *Quorum Opera civitas apud exteros utitur cauti ſint & circumſpecti, inania a ſolidis, vera fabuloſis diſcernere callidi, ſecretorum tenaciſſimi, pro utilitate ſuæ civitatis adverſus quaſlibet Corruptiones obſtinati.* Puffend. *lib. ii. de Off. Civ. c.* 18, §. 13.

There are many Things in War beſides fighting which only ought to take place when the ſame is inevitable. When his Lordſhip firſt arrived at *Halifax*, after a dangerous Voyage in the *Nightingal*, which is as ſlow a ſailing Ship as in the *Engliſh* Navy, it was the Seventh of *July* 1757; he found every Thing in diſorder, (the Army ſcarcely conſiſting of nine Hundred Men, the Regiments of *Laſcelles*, *Hopſon*, and *Warburton*, all incompleat,) was diſheartened; Diviſion and Jealouſy preyed upon the Minds of the Officers, Diſcontent and Murmuring fill'd the Mouths of the private Men, while the whole Provinces repined with Impatience for the Arrival of Admiral *Holborn*, with the Tranſports, which did not happen till a Fortnight afterwards. Magazines were wanting, Arſenals were out of Repair, the Artillery were unfit for uſe, the Roads which lay between him and a ſuperior Enemy were unpaſſable, and in many Places were no Roads at all; add to all this, that the Enemy had a ſuperior Army at *Louiſbourg*, and a Fleet capable of fighting the Squadron under Admiral *Holborn*.

To remedy all which Evils, his Lordſhip arriv'd ſo late that if none of theſe Obſtacles had been in the Way, nothing could have been done againſt the Enemy; however, he was ſo far from being inactive, that he was inceſſant in repairing every Inconveniency, and as nothing but Caprice and Rage prevailed in the different Provinces, that was like to break out into a Civil War; he by a Dexterity and Skill, equally remarkable, applied to reconcile oppoſite Parties, to remove falſe Prejudices, and by diſſipating Jealouſy and Diſtruſt, to cement them to each other, and engage them cordially in the Cauſe of their King and Mother Country; he repaired from *Hallifax* with his Army in a Fleet of Tranſports to *New-York*, where he rectified Abuſes; conferred

ferred with the Governors of the different Provinces, and their Deputies; he viſited the Forts as far as *Albany*, and employed a Number of Hands to make a Road for marching Troops: Nothing, however ſecret, eſcaped his Eye, and having diſcovered that the Captains of ſeveral Veſſels belonging to *New-York*, kept up a Correſpondence with the Enemy, and gave them Intelligence of every Thing that paſſed, he wiſely laid an Embargo upon the Shipping in that River, and quartered the Troops upon the Inhabitants, remedied every Inconvenience, ſo that at his Departure for *England*, an Army of fourteen Thouſand Men was formed, and in top Spirits; Magazines were eſtabliſhed for their Support; Arſenals were erected, the Artillery was in good Order and well ſerved; Harmony and mutual Confidence reigned throughout the Provinces: He was ſo far from being inactive, that I doubt, if any one Man in the Iſland of *Great-Britain*, would have done more, and to better Purpoſe in ſo ſhort a Time.

You next propoſe that *Guadaloupe*, *Senegal*, and *Goree*, be delivered up for *Minorca*, which laſt you ſeem to be for rendering deſolate, and leaving to the *French*, if they chuſe to poſſeſs it: On which Scheme, I beg Leave to obſerve, that the diſpenſing with *Senegal* and *Goree*, as being far from the Neighbourhood of any *Britiſh* Settlement, is the very Motive for retaining *Guadaloupe*; I would not be for eraſing the *French* from the Face of the Earth; let them retire to *Hiſpaniola* and to the *Miſſiſſippi*. I only want to preſerve Peace, and the beſt Way to ſecure it will be to remove them at the greateſt Diſtance; nor would I have any Peace be concluded untill they were driven from *Martinico* itſelf, which may eaſily be effected in the following Manner: Let a ſtrong Squadron of Men of War ride before their Harbours

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to intercept their Proviſion, and let all the Priſoners of whatever Age or Sex be landed upon it, which will ſoon oblige them to ſurrender for want of Bread.

I am far from putting a ſmall Value upon *Minorca*, nor yet for remembering 'the Circumſtances of its 'Loſs with as great Shame as we ſee the *French* poſſeſs it with Indifference ;' for the Bravery of Lord *Blakeney* will more than draw a Veil over the Misfortune of Admiral *Byng*; and the obſtinate Defence made for 39 Days by his Lorſhip with an Handful of Men not ſufficient to man all the Works, againſt an Army eight times their Number, and commanded by a Marſhal of *France* will ſhine as brightly in the *Britiſh* Annals, as any of the Conqueſts gained in the memorable Year 1759. The Defence of St. *Philip*'s Caſtle is a Miracle to any who duly conſiders it. The Company belonging to the Artillery was ſo far from being compleat, that the General himſelf was obliged to order the Soldiers to be trained in that Branch of Service; nay he frequently ſhewed them the Way of charging the Guns, and rendered them ſo expert that they often fired five Shot for three of the Enemy ; he took Care to have great Guns ſuddenly ſent out in lieu of a great many which were rended ; the Shells and Shot were carefully ſurveyed and guaged, which required the continual Application of the Governour, who erred in no Part of an Old Captain but that he expoſed his Life too much like a Young Soldier. He even ſtood undaunted when the Balls ſtruck into the Mouths of the Cannon mounted upon the Ramparts, and ſcattered the Stones of the Embraſures.

As you ſeem to be in ſome Degree for continental Meaſures, ſo I have taken a View of your Sentiments on that Particular, which with all due Deference, are not ſatisfactory to me; and I am one of

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thoſe who cannot ſee the infinite Advantages which this Nation hath reaped from the *German* War. Nor can I ſee how "that univerſal Bankruptcy which "hath crowned the Diſtreſſes of *France*" hath ariſen from that Source. 'Tis true, *French* Armies were ſent into *Weſtphalia*, but with no ſuch Expence as you would inſinuate; for the immenſe Sums levied upon *Hanover* and the other States of his *Britannic* Majeſty, were more than ſufficient to repay them: The Country was deſolated by them; imperial Cities, ſuch as *Bremen*, were obliged to receive their voracious Troops. The Houſes of Noblemen and wealthy Burghers were ſtripped of their Plate and Jewels; nay, *Jews* were ſent for from *Holland*, to buy them at leſs than one fourth Part of their Value. Curtains, Beds, and Linnen, were diſpoſed of by the rapacious Soldiers; and when Buyers ceaſed to come in, the Remainder was packed up and ſent into *France*; and, perhaps, were the ſeveral People employed in the Mint at *Paris*, to ſpeak ingenuouſly, they would tell you that *German* Plate to the Amount of one Million Sterling, has been ſent to them to be coined: The Landgraviate of *Heſſe-Caſſel* has alſo felt her Calamities, and the *French* have not only drained that Country of its ready Money, but alſo carried off Jewels and Plate to an immenſe Value, by which Means they have been enabled to carry on the War, and to augment their Marine: So far from exhauſting their Treaſure by the *German* War, that they have been enriched thereby; and Marſhal *Richlieu* by the Spoils of the Country, has paid off the numerous Incumbrances and Mortgages upon his Eſtate. The Cattle of the poor Peaſants of *Hanover* and *Heſſe-Caſſel*, and of the whole Country of *Weſtphalia*, have been almoſt driven off not only to ſuſtain their Army

but to victual their Fleets, and great has been the Havock in Woods and Foreſts for replacing their Marine.

It is not ſo much in Conſideration of any Diverſion that either the *Ruſſians* or *Swedes* could make in Favour of the *Auſtrians*, that exorbitant Sums are payed to the one or other of theſe, as on Account of the Timber, Iron, Sail-Cloth, Cordage, Pitch, Tar, and other Materials for building a Navy; without being ſupplied by the *Ruſſians* and *Swedes*, the Court of *France* would be obliged to give over all Thoughts of keeping any thing like a formidable Fleet, as being in want of theſe Particulars; nor was it ſo uneaſy a Matter to prevail upon the *Ruſſians* to break with the King of *Pruſſia*, in Favour of the Queen of *Hungary*; the Proſpect of being admitted as a Member of the College of Princes, in Conſequence of *Livonia*, which is but a Fief of the Empire, might be one powerful Motive; and to unite with the Houſe of *Auſtria*, who in their Turn, would upon Occaſion make a Diverſion againſt the *Turks*, might be another: And the Proſpect of overawing the *Poles* in their Diets, and feeding an Hundred Thouſand Men in that plentiful Country, might be a Third.

I am far from denying that the *French* Army has been unſucceſsful in *Germany* laſt Summer, yet I cannot ſee what mighty Advantages were reaped by *Great Britain*, either by the Convention of *Cloſtern Severn*, on the Eighth of *September* 1757, or during the Courſe of the laſt Campaign. A numerous Body of *Britiſh* Auxiliaries who might have been cantoned along the Coaſt of *England*, have been at a prodigious Expence ſent over and forced to undergo Hardſhips, which none but a Soldier can figure to himſelf, in another Country. And by an

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unhappy Circumſtance ſtill to be conſidered, the *Britiſh* Standards in the midſt of Triumph were tarniſhed with Infamy; as the Cavalry of that Nation was not engaged at the Battle of *Minden*. For my Part, I am of the Number of thoſe who think that the *Germans* ought to fight for themſelves; the Country has always been a Grave to the *French* Soldiers; a national Antipathy reigns between the Empire and *France*, nor would the Natives of the former be ſo ready to offer themſelves to the higheſt Bidder if they were not ſure that *England* will draw her Purſe at the Auction: Nor would the latter be ſo ready to march Forces into the Territories of a few hungry Princes, if ſhe was not fully aſſured that *England* would be drawn into the Quarrel by ſuch a Conduct.

I would be as far as any Man from leaving the King of *Pruſſia* to the Mercy of his Enemies, and on that Account am for ſending him the moſt effectual Relief. A Squadron of Men of War to block up the *Swedes* in the Iſle of *Rugen*, and to parade from *Wiſmar* quite to the Gulph of *Dantzic*, would be of more real Advantage to him than an Army of 50,000 Land-Forces from *Britain*. By ſuch a Conduct, the *Ruſſians* would ſoon become ſick of the War, and the King would be left at Liberty to deal with the Houſe of *Auſtria* and with the *French* too, by Means of the Army of Prince *Ferdinand*. And, therefore, at the future Congreſs let our Plenipotentiaries be inſtructed to get it expreſsly ſtipulated, that the *French* Nation are in no Ways to march Forces into *Germany* under Penalty of feeling the whole Force of our Marine. This in my Opinion will be a Means of preventing that ambitious Court from raiſing vaſt Sums to build Ships, and ſuccour her Colonies to our great Diſadvantage and

Loſs. I thought to have made a few Obſervations upon your Recommendation for reducing the Number of Placemen, and introducing a proper Oeconomy after a Peace is ſettled; but as the two great Men to whom you addreſs your Letter, have the Negotiation at this Time upon their Hands, ſo it is Time enough to point out the Methods of Oeconomy, when they are more at Leiſure to peruſe them.

No Man has the leaſt Reaſon to doubt the Goodneſs of the Heart of one of the great Men, ſince Malice itſelf muſt own that whatever the warmeſt Imagination could ſuggeſt; whatever the fondeſt Hope could preſage from his ſublime Talents, and incorruptible Fidelity, have been more than realiſed by his Conduct ſince the Time he had the Direction of Public Affairs. Naturally endowed with all the Vigour of Mind which conſtitutes Magnanimity, and animated with ſuch Zeal as would have enobled the chief Patriot in *Rome*; he has reſtored his Country to the Summit of Dignity; he has healed her Diviſions, aboliſhed the Diſtinctions of Party, and united his Fellow-Subjects in one hearty Concurrence, to ſupport the Honour and promote the Happineſs of the Community.

He has inſpired our Councils with Reſolution and and Wiſdom, and piloted our natural Strength thro' the proper Channel to Glory and Succeſs. Under the Influence of his Miniſtry, diſtinguiſhed above all others for Unanimity and Concord, our Arms by Sea and Land have been accuſtomed to Conqueſt, and have raiſed immortal Trophies in the four Diviſions of the Globe; *Europe*, *Aſia*, *Africa*, and *America* have in their Turns beheld illuſtrious Proofs of the *Britiſh* Valour; and Victory ſeems to have ſettled between the Knees of our aged Sovereign; a

Sovereign

Sovereign ſhining in Virtues and adorning the Brilliancy of his Diadem with the Silver Colour of his Grey Hairs!

The Year 1759 is an Æra which will ſhine unrivalled and with unfading Luſtre in the *Britiſh* Hiſtory. The Adminiſtration of Mr. PITT, that Delight and Ornament of his Country, will be a favourite Subject for ſucceeding Ages, and fill the Mouths of unborn Millions with Admiration and Gratitude; for he is the Man who poſſeſſes true Honour, by "purſuing unweariedly the Welfare and Glory of his "Country without being frightned by Dangers, or "ſtartled at the frothy Whims of popular Ap-"plauſe!" He will fix upon Men, cautious in their Conduct, ſkilful in their Management of Buſineſs, of inviolable Secrecy, and Proof againſt all the Efforts of Corruption and Bribery. He knows that the *French* are Members of a Church whoſe Maxim is Mental Reſervation, and to "keep no Faith with "Hereticks," and whoſe Members can write Volumes upon the long ſince adopted Saying of *Etheocles*, "I have ſworn with my Tongue, but not with "my Mind.*" He will give Inſtructions that no Negotiation be agreed to, in which the *French* are to be in our Neighbourhood; and when once the Peace is ſettled, he will apply himſelf to weed out ſuch Abuſes as choak up the benign Influences of the Conſtitution; the Number of Placemen will be reduced if found expedient, tho' I ſhou'd be ſorry if ſuch a Reduction was to happen in Conſequence of erazing the Fortifications of *Louiſbourgh*, or deſtroying the Citadel of *Fort St. Philip* and the Town of *Mahon*.

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* *Juravi lingua mentem injuratam gero.* C.c. de Off. lib. iii. c. 29.

By the happy Aſcendant he ſo deſervedly has obtained over our illuſtrious King, his Majeſty will, after the Concluſion of the War, apply to whatever may be of the greateſt Advantage, in procuring Unanimity among his Subjects, and giving Dignity to that Conſtitution which is by far the moſt rational in itſelf, the beſt calculated to promote mutual Happineſs, and is juſtly the Admiration and Envy of the whole World.

Thus, Sir, I have named ſome few of the Obſervations that occurred on peruſing your Performance; which rather deſerves Approbation than Cenſure; and though I may differ from You in Sentiment, yet that need not break the Silver Cord which ought to unite all his Majeſty's Subjects in a dutiful Reſpect to their Sovereign, and to each other: You are for a laſting and ſolid Peace, ſo am I. We only differ in Opinion about the Means to procure it: So without further enlarging on the Subject, I am for retaining all our *American* Conqueſts, and even for inſiſting upon *Martinico*, that Sepulchre of our Merchantmen, twelve Hundred of which have been carried into that Iſland ſince the Beginning of the War, and think that Hoſtages ought to be ſent over till the ſame is done, in which Caſe let the Enemy have *Senegal* and *Goree*; and if the Peace be ſettled on theſe Terms, we need not be much concerned at the Demolition of *Dunkirk*, as it will not be in the Power of the Enemy to diſturb us.

BRITISH
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MUSEUM

I am, &c.

FINIS.